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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, RO (BOK, JOHN)

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT OF PROFESSOR JOHN BOK

REF: BUCHAREST 6260

1. AS REQUESTED REFTEL, FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT OF PROPOSED
ACTIVITY FOR JOHN BOK EXTRACTED FROM HIS APPLICATION FOR
RESEARCH SCHOLAR GRANT:

"SUMMARY: A STUDY OF ROMANIAN LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENTS
CONTROLS TO SEE IF TECHNIQUES EXIST THERE WHICH MIGHT BE
ADAPTABLE TO, AND USEFUL IN, AMERICA'S RAPIDLY CHANGING
SYSTEM OF LAND USE CONTROLS. END SUMMARY

WHILE ON A SIX-MONTH SABBATICAL LEAVE FROM MY BOSTON LAW
FIRM, I WOULD LIKE TO ACCOMPLISH THE FOLLOWING WORK ITEMS
WHILE LIVING WITH MY FAMILY IN ROMANIA:

A. LAND-USE CONTROLS RESEARCH WOULD BE THE PRIMARY FOCUS
OF MY ACTIVITIES. DURING THE PAST DECADE, THE TRADITIONAL
AMERICAN SYSTEM OF LAND-USE CONTROLS CENTERING ON LOCALLY
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IMPOSED ZONING REGULATIONS HAS BEEN SUPPLEMENTED, AND IN

SOME CASES SUPPLANTED, BY A VARIETY OF NEW TECHNIQUES: STATE AND FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS, CRITICAL AREA ZONING IMPOSED BY STATE, WETLANDS AND CONSERVATION CONTROLS, HISTORIC DISTRICT AND URBAN RENEWAL REGULATIONS, ANTI-SNOB ZONING LAWS AND NEW STATE DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCING AGENCIES FOR SOCIALLY DESIRED CONSTRUCTION, SUCH AS LOW-MODERATE INCOME HOUSING. UNDERLYING THIS EXPLOSION OF NEW TECHNIQUES MAY WELL BE A FUNDAMENTAL SHIFT IN OUR VIEW OF THE RELATIVE RIGHTS AND POWERS OVER THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PARTICULAR PIECE OF LAND OF THE PRIVATE OWNER AND THE REMAINDER OF SOCIETY. PERHAPS WE AS A PEOPLE ARE BECOMING MORE WILLING TO CONTROL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT DIRECTLY, AND WILLING TO LEAVE LESS AND LESS TO PRIVATE DECISIONS ALONE.

IT WOULD SEEM TO ME WORTHWHILE TO INVESTIGATE THE LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AND STIMULATION SYSTEM OF ROMANIA TO SEE HOW A NATION WHICH STARTS FROM A RADICALLY DIFFERENT VIEW FROM OURS CONTROLS ITS LAND DEVELOPMENT, AND TO DETERMINE WHAT TECHNIQUES, WHICH HAVE BEEN FOUND USEFUL AND WORKABLE THERE, MIGHT HAVE APPLICATIONS IN OUR CHANGING AMERICAN SYSTEM. SINCE MY EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN BOTH ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL, I WOULD ANTICIPATE UTILIZING BOTH THE RESOURCES OF THE ACADEMY OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES IN BUCHAREST AND FIELD WORK TO COLLECT AND CORRELATE MATERIALS.

B. CONFERENCE AND ROUND TABLES. PARTICIPATION ON AN INFORMAL BASIS WITH THE STUDENTS AND FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BUCHAREST, INSTITUTE OF LAW AND ACADEMY OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES WOULD SEEM TO ME A DESIRABLE SUPPLEMENT TO THE BASIC RESEARCH PROJECT. PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS WITH ION CETERCHI INDICATE THAT THIS TYPE OF PARTICIPATION, WHICH WOULD OFFER AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE IDEAS IN THE LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT AREA, WOULD BE POSSIBLE.

C. HARVARD LAW SCHOOL - UNIVERSITY OF BUCAREST EXCHANGE PROGRAM. DEAN ALBERT SACHS OF THE HARVARD LAW SCHOOL HAS AUTHORIZED ME TO ATTEMPT TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF A UNCLASSIFIED

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VISITING SCHOLAR OR OTHER EXCHANGE PROGRAM FOR FACULTY MEMBERS WITH THE INSTITUTE OF LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BUCHAREST. IT IS THE BELIEF OF HARVARD LAW SCHOOL PERSONNEL THAT SUCH A PROGRAM WOULD BE OF SUBSTANTIAL BENEFIT TO BOTH INSTITUTIONS AND THAT THE ARRANGEMENTS CAN BEST BE FINALIZED BY THE FACE-TO-FACE CONTACT WHICH WOULD BE POSSIBLE DURING MY SIX-MONTH STAY IN BUCHAREST."

2. SAME DATA CONCERNING MRS. BOK'S RESEARCH PLANS WILL
BE CABLED WHEN RECEIVED. INGERSOLL

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